

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An iron golf club provided with a head portion having a cavity portion, a face portion, and a sole portion, wherein

a groove extending along said face portion is provided on a surface on said cavity portion side of said sole portion, and

5 a thickness of a ball hitting portion in said face portion is made greater than a thickness of a top edge side portion of said face portion located between said ball hitting portion and a top edge portion and at least as thick as a thickness of a sole side portion of said face portion that is located between said ball hitting portion and said sole portion and that extends along said groove.

2. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein

the thickness of said ball hitting portion is made greater than a thickness of a toe side portion of said face portion located between a toe portion of said head portion and said ball hitting portion and greater than a thickness of a heel side portion of said face portion located between a heel portion of said head portion and said ball hitting
5 portion.

3. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein

said toe side portion includes a first region located on said top edge portion side and a second region located on said sole portion side,

said heel side portion includes a third region located on said top edge portion
5 side and a fourth region located on said sole portion side, and

a thickness of said first region is made smaller than a thickness of said second
region, and a thickness of said third region is made smaller than a thickness of said
fourth region.

4. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein
height of a base surface of said groove from a base surface of said sole portion
is made lower on said heel portion side than on said toe portion side.

5. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein
said sole portion includes a projected wall portion that defines one of side
walls of said groove and that rises along said face portion toward said top edge portion.

6. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein
a through hole is provided in said sole portion such that it reaches said cavity
portion from a base surface of said sole portion, and
said groove is provided by attaching a blocking member that closes an end
5 portion on a base surface side of said sole portion in said through hole.

7. The iron golf club according to claim 6, wherein
a specific gravity of a material composing said blocking member is made

greater than a specific gravity of a material composing a head portion body.

8. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein
a back side portion located behind said face portion in said head portion is
formed by a back part which is a separate member from said head portion body, and
said groove is provided between said head portion body and said back part by
5 attaching said back part to said head portion body.

9. The iron golf club according to claim 8, wherein
a specific gravity of a material composing said back part is made greater than a
specific gravity of a material composing said head portion body.

10. The iron golf club according to claim 1, wherein
said head portion is formed by forging.

11. A golf club set including a long iron golf club, a middle iron golf club,
and a short iron golf club, wherein
each of said long iron golf club, said middle iron golf club, and said short iron
golf club is provided with a head portion having a cavity portion, a face portion, and a
5 sole portion,

each of said long iron golf club, said middle iron golf club, and said short iron
golf club is provided with a groove extending along said face portion on a surface on

said cavity portion side of said sole portion, and wherein

10 a depth of said groove in a center portion of said face portion of said long iron golf club is greater than a depth of said groove in a center portion of said face portion of said middle iron golf club, and

a depth of said groove in the center portion of said face portion of said middle iron golf club is greater than a depth of said groove in a center portion of said face portion of said short iron golf club.

12. A golf club set including a long iron golf club, a middle iron golf club, and a short iron golf club, wherein

5 each of said long iron golf club, said middle iron golf club, and said short iron golf club is provided with a head portion having a cavity portion, a face portion, and a sole portion,

a groove extending along said face portion is provided on a surface on said cavity portion side of said sole portion of each of said long iron golf club and said middle iron golf club, and wherein

10 a depth of said groove in a center portion of said face portion of said long iron golf club is greater than a depth of said groove in a center portion of said face portion of said middle iron golf club, and

said groove is not provided on a surface on said cavity portion side of said sole portion of said short iron golf club.